Kingston Guardian

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Kingston Guardian

Thursday, September 10, 2015

FORCED OUT

Family moves into hotel after sewage pipe causes a stink

Inside

TODAY'S PAPER STARTS ON PAGE THREE

To Russia with Love in West London or the Glamour of Paris in Weybridge!

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			Business Price	Consumer Price		Business Price	Consumer Price	
Fri	27th	Nov	£49.50	£59.40	Limited Places	-	-	**CHARITY NIGHT**
Sat	28th	Nov	£49.50	£59.40	Mixed Group	£49.50	£59.40	Mixed Group
Thu	3rd	Dec	-	-	**SOLD OUT**	-	-	**RESERVED**
Fri	4th	Dec	-	-	**RESERVED**	£56.50	£67.80	Mixed Group
Sat	5th	Dec	£54.50	£65.40	Limited Places	£56.50	£67.80	Limited Places
Sun	6th	Dec	-	-	**SOLD OUT**	-	-	**SOLD OUT**
Wed	9th	Dec	£45.00	£54.00	Mixed Group	£42.50	£51.00	Exclusive Hire
Thu	10th	Dec	£47.50	£57.00	Exclusive Hire	£46.00	£55.20	Mixed Group
Fri	11th	Dec	£57.50	£69.00	Limited Places	-	-	**SOLD OUT**
Sat	12th	Dec	-	-	**SOLD OUT**	£57.50	£69.00	Mixed Group
Sun	13th	Dec	£39.50	£47.40	Mixed Group	£39.50	£47.40	Mixed Group
Mon	14th	Dec	£39.50	£47.40	Exclusive Hire	£37.50	£45.00	Exclusive Hire
Tue	15th	Dec	£39.50	£47.40	Mixed Group	£39.50	£47.40	Mixed Group
Wed	16th	Dec	£45.00	£54.00	Exclusive Hire	£46.50	£55.80	Mixed Group
Thu	17th	Dec	-	-	**RESERVED**	-	-	**SOLD OUT**
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Escaping the stink: Valerie Robey and her son Amaranatho; the sewage water in the basement, right

Deadlinepix KT93228

FORCED OUT

Family moves into hotel after sewage pipe causes a stink

REPORTER
RACHAEL BURFORD
rachael.burford@london.newsquest.co.uk

A Buddhist monk and his mum have been forced to move into a Kingston Premier Inn after Thames Water refused to take responsibility for a pipe leaking sewage water into their basement.

Retired Valerie Robey, 74, was converting the garage under her property in Crescent Road, Coombe Hill, into a flat for her son Amaranatho, 47, who has just returned from working as a monk in Australia, when builders noticed a terrible smell coming from the basement.

Excavation work revealed excessive mould and a leak coming about 2.5m below the basement last month. Thames Water took four weeks to admit the pipe was its responsibility, and eventually fixed the problem.

But there is still sewage water leaking into the basement – and nobody is taking responsibility for the second faulty pipe.

Mr Robey said: "It has just been ridiculous. We have made about 70 phone calls to Thames Water and they are denying that the pipe is even theirs but haven't proven it either way.

"They told us to contact the council, who told us to contact Thames Water. We still have the leak and even after that is fixed it will take about four weeks for the house to dry out."

Mr and Mrs Robey are unable to eat or sleep in their home because of the pungent odour from the water.

They moved into the Premier Inn in the centre of Kingston and expect to be there for at least a month.

Keith Baxter, building project manager from Alliance Preservation, who has been working on the basement conversion, said: "People have had raw sewage leaking from the main foul line being fed by houses up the hill and into their basement.

"They [Thames Water] are responsible for proving that the other leak is not coming from their pipe.

"If it is a private pipe then the house insurance will cover the damage but we have spent £20,000 already trying to locate the leak. The money is running out."

Thames Water said Kingston Council looked after surface water drains, which are located outside homes.

A Thames Water spokeswoman said: "We have advised the customer to contact their local council, after our investigations found the foul sewer to be in good working order."

Kingston Council was unable to comment as the Kingston Guardian went to press.

Inside

WE SALUTE OUR LONGEST-REIGNING MONARCH

In celebration of the Queen's long reign, the Kingston Guardian has a special supplement to mark the occasion.

SEE PAGE 17

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SPORT
Weybridge brothers help Surrey to one-day showpiece

VIBE
Former Reed's School pupil Tom Hardy on playing the Krays

A 'conversation' on where axe will fall

REPORTER
RACHAEL BURFORD
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Street cleaners may only be paid if they do a good job and residents might have to "make deals" with the council under proposed plans to cut the budget.

The ideas were brought up at the first Kingston Conversation event on Tuesday night last week where residents were given the opportunity to ask questions of council leader Kevin Davis.

During the conversation in Southborough High School hall the audience was told that by 2018 the council budget would be 45 per cent less than it was in 2010.

This means savings of almost £40m need to be made between now and 2018-19.

Coun Davis laid out the "three great challenges" he believes are facing the council as communication with citizens, the growth agenda and what shape the council of the future will take.

He said: "No one wants to see council tax rise but what are we going to do about that?

"What are the services that we are going to say we are not going to do any more?"

Recycling and waste collection, the council spending money unnecessarily and Tolworth being the "forgotten" end of the borough were all big issues for south of the borough residents.

Coun Davis brought up a conversation he had with residents previously where a street had clubbed together to get a grass verge.

The council agreed to put in the verge if residents were in charge of its upkeep.

He said: "We got together with residents and said we are prepared to do a deal here.

"It is that type of decision we are going to have to have."

Councillor Andrea Craig joined Coun Davis on stage and said the council could adopt a system trialled by Hammersmith Council where cleaners were only paid if they did a good job.

She said: "We [as a council] have to do a lot better with our contracts. We need to have better management."

After the event Coun Davis said he was "very pleased" with the turnout of 80 people in the school hall and 20 people watching the live stream online.

After the event he said: "We need to be talking more to people. Big decisions have to be made about our budget and what we need is to be getting people involved in them.

"This was a good turnout for the first one."

The second of eight Kingston Conversation events will be held tonight, September 10, from 7pm to 9pm, in the Richard Mayo Centre, Eden Street.

For a full list of events visit **kingston.gov.uk/conversation**.

Conversing: The meeting at Southborough High School; Coun Kevin Davis, above

Girls slightly ahead in reading, writing and maths

Girls in the borough are achieving more in maths, grammar and reading than boys of the same age.

Statistics recently released by the Department for Education found Kingston pupils at key stage two – ages seven to 11 – were above the national average.

Since 2009, the percentage of pupils making "expected progress" in maths has also increased from 85 to 91.

In maths tests, both sexes were found to be fairly equal in their results, but girls extended the gap by outperforming boys in grammar, punctuation and spelling by 7 per cent.

Nationally, more than 14,000 more girls than boys achieved level five or above in reading, writing and maths, with 80 per cent achieving the expected level four.

Although the borough did not make it into the top 10 performing education authorities, all the statistics for 2015 testing were above 80 per cent for pupils gaining level four, the average standard.

This is the last time levels will be used to assess performance at the end of primary school.

From 2016, pupils will be given a scaled score, with 100 as the expected standard.

Schools Minister Nick Gibb said: "Our reform programme is driven by social justice and we will continue to raise the bar so young people are prepared to succeed in modern Britain."

ASSESSMENTS – 2015 RESULTS

- **Maths:** 91 per cent of girls achieved level 4 or higher, boys were 90 per cent.
- **Grammar, punctuation and spelling:** 88 per cent of girls achieved level 4 or higher, boys were 81 per cent.
- **Reading:** 93 per cent of girls achieved level 4 or higher, boys were 90 per cent.

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179,998 pages are looked at every month (Jan-Jun 2015)

Taking to the streets

Colourful: Highlights from the carnival parade; stiltwalkers get ready, right; Kin-Yee Leung, below Deadlinepix KT93118

REPORTER
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After the disappointment of last year's surprise cancellation, Kingston Carnival came back bigger than ever celebrating diversity and home grown talent on Sunday.

The 2014 event was cancelled amid safety concerns and this year's carnival was not allowed to have a headline act on the Market Place stage.

But the borough's largest multicultural street parade still saw music from some big names in the shape of political hip hop poet Akala and socially-conscious folk music from Beans on Toast.

There was also raucous Celtic-punk from local boys The Lagan.

The event was organised by Kingston's Race and Equalities Council (KREC) and Banquet Records.

Director of KREC John Azah said: "Last year was a disappointment but today has shown that Kingston wants this event.

"There is no question that people have come out to support us, the evidence is on the streets.

"We have shown that we can run a safe festival that rewards Kingston.

"For that we have to thank all the people who have made this happen, particularly Jon Tolley from Banquet Records.

"Kingston is supposedly the second happiest place in London. We want to make it the happiest."

The carnival kicked off at noon with a parade through the streets of Kingston starting at the Guildhall.

Dancers representing the borough's Korean, African, Tamil and Chinese communities were led by Kingston mayor councillor Roy Arora.

There were events scattered across the town centre including break dancing crews and Bollywood dancers.

When final act of the day Akala was late to the stage, Mr Azah led the growing crowd in Market Place to sing-along's of One Love, I Shot the Sherriff and Bob Marley's No Woman No Cry.

The carnival had a strict 7pm curfew and no drinking was allowed, however this did not dishearten carnival-goers.

Heather Smithers said: "The Kingston Carnival was full of vibrant colours as the entertainers swayed through the streets.

"A great event that will hopefully continue for many years to come."

Chance to explore our heritage

Go behind the scenes at a funeral parlour, see the seats of power and discover some of Kingston's most ancient treasures during this year's heritage open days.

Historic buildings, from churches to schools, and even an aqueduct and synagogue, will open their doors to the public for at least three days from September 10.

Kingston Society chairman Matthew Rees said: "The open days provide a rare opportunity for free access to significant buildings in Kingston that are not normally open to the public or usually charge an entry fee."

Frederick W Paine, funeral director in Old London Road, Kingston, will show off its Grade II-listed interior and the unique collection of funeral artefacts in its museum.

Favourites from previous years, such as St Mary's Church in Chessington and All Saints Church in Kingston, will be on show.

The Kingston Aviation exhibition, in the BalletBoyz studio in Canbury Park Road, Kingston, will put on a two-day display of models and century-old photos from the borough's historical Hawker factory.

To find out more, including details of events you need to book in advance, visit **kingstonhod.wordpress.com**.

MOTORS
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PAGE 35

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Beggar Mayo has finally had his chips

A homeless man has been banned from Kingston town centre for two years after persistently shoplifting and begging.

Samuel Mayo, 27, *pictured*, was described as a man who had caused "distress" to people in the town for "too long".

Wimbledon Magistrates' Court heard on Friday, August 21, how Mayo had been involved in numerous thefts and antisocial offences over the years.

His latest arrest was for shoplifting in Tiger, Clarence Street, on Thursday, July 2.

Last month Mayo, of no fixed address, was given a criminal behaviour order banning him from the town centre and ordering him to take part in a drug treatment programme.

He was previously handed a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £30 costs on July 16.

PC Michaela Glue said: "Mayo has been a persistent beggar and antisocial offender, in and around Kingston town centre for a number of years.

"His regular antisocial behaviour has caused harassment and distress to shoppers, shop workers and residents for far too long."

Bed bugs: Dowler Court Deadlinepix KT93175

Bug infestation

REPORTER
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The daughter of a dementia sufferer living in council-managed "bed bug infested" sheltered accommodation has hit out at the authority.

Jessica Johnston Schoon has said her 68-year-old father lives in Dowler Court residential home, which she claims has been riddled with blood-sucking mites for 18 months.

Mrs Johnston Schoon said her vulnerable father has lived at the Burton Road home, made up of 26 self-contained studios, for almost 13 years.

She said: "My father caught bed bugs from another tenant in the home some months ago and we were advised to privately contact pest control. We did, and assumed each tenant had done the same. They haven't, and now the home has an infestation.

"The bed bugs have been there for 18 months on and off. All they seem to have done is removed the chairs in the communal areas and put plastic ones in.

"My father has been diagnosed with dementia and this is very disturbing for him. I must swallow my pride and admit that I saw a bed bug actually crawling over my father's hand."

Kingston Council confirmed that it did have a problem with bed bugs at the homes, but said cleaning it did not come under its remit.

Mrs Johnston Schoon said: "We are talking about frail elderly people unable to care for themselves – many of them suffering with vision problems or other ailments.

"I was talking to a carer who visits one resident and she was worried that she could pick the bugs up there and spread them to patients in other homes."

Mrs Johnston Schoon said she was disappointed with the quality of the sheltered home.

She said: "I am currently making arrangements for my father to move. Unfortunately I don't feel that the other tenants have this opportunity and I am genuinely worried about their wellbeing.

"There has been a change in the system recently and there is no onsite warden any more."

Floating wardens moving between residential homes were introduced by the council at the beginning of 2015 as a cost-cutting measure.

Reg O'Neil, who lives in Sobraon House, another sheltered housing building run by the council said he "rarely" sees his warden now.

He said: "When I moved in I signed a contract that I would be seen three times a week but I'm lucky if I'm seen once.

"A few people are not happy bunnies with the new system."

Roy Thompson, director of place at Kingston Council, said: "Although infestations like this should be dealt with through tenancy agreement, on this occasion the council decided to send in pest control officers.

"The property was treated accordingly, however, a further inspection showed the infestation was not fully cleared and a second treatment took place. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and act again if needed."

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BIG BELLIES: Solar-powered, self-compacting bins are soon to appear in Kingston's streets. The Big Belly bins, which automatically crush waste when rubbish reaches a certain level, will also send emails and text messages to collectors when bins are nearly full. Kingston Council has claimed the bins – at a cost of £10,000 for a six-week trial – will save cash by reducing the frequency of collections.

TAX CHANGES: Kingston Council would like the views of residents on proposed changes to its council tax reduction scheme. It has launched a public consultation on whether to make changes to the way claimant entitlement is decided. This consultation comes after the Government announced welfare benefit reforms likely to see income through benefits decrease. The scheme would affect about 6,000 borough residents. To take part visit the council's website at **kingston.gov.uk/consultations**.

YOUR SAY: A public consultation into major New Malden redevelopment plans asking residents what they would like for the Cocks Crescent site came to an end last month. Responses will be shared with the New Malden Futures group, which has been steering the project, and will be announced later this month.

ARCHIVE MOVE: History buffs will no longer have access to local history and archives including old Kingston Guardian and Surrey Comet editions at Surbiton library on Tuesdays. The library is temporarily stopping the service while archives move into Guildhall. Email local.history@kingston.gov.uk.

STORY TIME: Children aged three to seven can enjoy stories and crafts after school for free. Book Bugs takes place on the second Tuesday of every month at Tolworth library, from 3.45pm to 4.15pm.

Korean culture inspires festival

REPORTER
RACHAEL BURFORD
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Singing flash mobs, experimental art and traditional tea ceremonies are all coming to New Malden as the borough welcomes its second Korean-themed festival in as many months.

The eighth New Malden Arts Festival runs until Sunday, September 20, and this year is adopting even more Korean-inspired events.

Organiser Bona Shin hails from South Korea and helped to set up New Malden's Korean Information Centre earlier this year.

She is particularly excited about an arts trail that will lead people through different places in the town.

She said: "The arts trail is in its second year and the submissions reflect the exciting and diverse nature of the New Malden community.

"Artists and business owners have collaborated to bring us this year's trail.

"You can see the works of Sarah Choi, Billy Jackson and Du Byung Park, to name a few.

"We really hope people enjoy visiting the galleries and all of the amazing art is for sale. You never know what you may discover about New Malden and its residents along the way."

Another highlight will be the North Korean Friends and Their Stories evening on September 17.

Artists and poets will be responding to some of the harrowing stories of New Malden's 600-plus North Korean refugees.

Other events include a traditional Korean tea-making ceremony today, September 10, and silk scarf painting on Sunday, September 13.

There will also be a battle of the bands concert, doll-making workshops and experimental art lessons.

For a full list of events and times visit **theatre4all.com.**

Face painting: Amie Wicks enjoying the fun day Deadlinepix KT93162

The green made way for stalls, games and more at the Cambridge Road estate's weekend fun day.

The community turned up for an afternoon of fun as they browsed the different stands while children enjoyed face painting on Saturday, just outside the Madingley block in Eureka Road.

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Consultation launched over health centre location

GPs will launch a consultation on the part-closure and relocation of Chessington's Gosbury Hill health centre.

The centre has faced criticism since opening for turning away patients and not treating injuries.

But a report to Kingston Council's health scrutiny panel said that "uptake in the service has not been as large as expected", despite 12-hour, 365-days-a-year opening times.

Now health bosses have said they are "very keen to get it right".

As part of the proposals, urgent care appointments could be moved to Surbiton Health Centre as part of a walk-in service, and people already registered at Gosbury Hill could re-register with GP practices on the same site or within half a mile.

The consultation, that could see the "walk in" part of the site either close or partially close, is proposed to run for eight weeks, from Tuesday, September 15.

However, a legally-mandated equality impact assessment said more engagement with people who most use Gosbury Hill was needed.

According to reports, this meant parents with young children, the traveller community and the over-60s.

Assessors also warned that moving the service to a more central location in the borough could see a "sharp increase" in patient numbers.

Earlier this year, the Kingston clinical commissioning group claimed it could not discuss the plans with this newspaper because of pre-election "purdah".

Site: The health centre Deadlinepix KT51575

Estate agent fled UK with £47k

REPORTER
JON SHARMAN
jon.sharman@
london.newsquest.co.uk

A homeless estate agent fled Britain and left landlords and tenants thousands of pounds out of pocket.

Manish Manek, 54, was collared by detectives as he tried to re-enter the UK last autumn and was jailed for 20 months at Kingston Crown Court on September 2.

He owned the Je Je Barons agency, based in Kingston Hill, from 2008 to 2012.

After he told staff in October 2012 he was going into hospital for liver surgery, he disappeared and wages went unpaid. Creditors also complained to police that Manek had not paid them back.

In reality, the crook – who denied 17 counts of theft, but was found guilty after a trial – had sold his house and flown to India, leaving £18,500 owed to staff and creditors.

Detectives also discovered he had stolen more than £47,000 from clients by slipping landlords' and tenants' deposits, and even rent payments, into his personal bank account instead of using the Government-approved deposit protection scheme.

Detective Constable Paul Lawlor, from Kingston CID, said: "Manek stole from the very people who were paying him to manage their properties and keep his business running.

"He blamed his criminal activities on his huge debt, his ill health and the health of family members. Regardless what his personal circumstance may have been, it does not justify resorting to criminal activities thinking it is an easy route out.

"Because of his actions, Manek is not only serving a custodial sentence in jail, but has also lost the reputation he once had within his community."

The Kingston Guardian reported in October 2012 that a message had been left in the Je Je Barons shop window that read: "There have been many allegations made, which have been investigated by Kingston CID and proven false and our solicitors are currently dealing with the matter. All staff have been dismissed in this context due to improper behaviour and dishonesty."

Manek's solicitors at the time, Aston Bond, said they were acting for him, trading as Je Je Barons, in relation to a claim for damages against former staff for serious breaches.

Shut: The agency in Kingston Hill that was run by Manish Manek, right Deadlinepix KT71626

Armed crook robs bookies

An armed gunman tried to rob a Chessington bookmaker's while a member of staff worked alone inside.

Paddy Power, in North Parade, was targeted by a man wearing a balaclava and wielding a grey barrelled handgun at about 8.30pm on bank holiday Monday.

According to an employee the robber made off with just £29, but the police had no record of any cash being taken.

No shots were fired and the staff member was left unhurt following the unsuccessful heist that came just days after a suspected shooting at a Chessington bus stop.

Paddy Power, along with Ladbrokes and William Hill, practise "single manning" – staff working alone during quieter trading hours. Paddy Power cashiers have reportedly been working alone for about 18 months in the Kingston area.

A Safe Bet campaign to outlaw "single manning" was started by our sister newspaper, Wimbledon Guardian, in 2014, after the murder of a Ladbrokes employee in Morden.

The Chessington suspect, who reportedly ran off towards Bray Court, was a white man wearing a black Superdry jacket.

Call 101 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

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Sutton & Cheam Cats Protection set to expand!

Sutton & Cheam Cats Protection are expanding into new territory and re-launching as **Sutton, Kingston & District Cats Protection.**

The areas they will now cover include Sutton, Cheam, Wallington, Carshalton, New Malden, Raynes Park, Worcester Park and parts of Kingston and Wimbledon.

The branch – part of the UK's leading cat welfare charity that helps over 194,000 cats and kittens each year – is currently on the prowl for more volunteers to help them expand their cat welfare work in the local area.

"Joining our branch will give you a chance to work with fellow cat-lovers and get a true sense of satisfaction from helping cats. However, for every cat we home, there are still many more that need our help. No matter where your skills and interests lie, and however much time you can spare, there are plenty of opportunities to support us. We welcome people who are interested in gaining work experience at Cats Protection, whether it is for Duke of Edinburgh or towards a degree course, as well as those looking for a new hobby or to make new friends in the area." Kate Brent, Communications Officer said.

If you are interested in getting involved, please visit the volunteering page of their website **www.sutton.cats.org.uk or call 07736 359678.**

Sutton & Cheam Cats Protection set to expand!

Sutton & Cheam Cats Protection are expanding into new territory and re-launching as Sutton, Kingston & District Cats Protection.

The areas we will now cover include:
- Sutton
- Cheam
- Wallington
- Carshalton
- New Malden
- Raynes Park
- Worcester Park
- Parts of Kingston and Wimbledon

We are currently recruiting new volunteers to help with all aspects of our branch, including:
- Homing
- Cat Welfare
- Publicity
- Administration
- Events
- School Liaison
- Fundraising

If you have a few hours a week you can spare to help a small, friendly team, we would love to hear from you!

For further information please contact:
T: 07736 359678
E: suttoncats@hotmail.co.uk
W: www.sutton.cats.org.uk

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Anger at restaurant nears tipping point

REPORTER
RACHAEL BURFORD
rachael.burford@
london.newsquest.co.uk

A Kingston restaurant has been attacked for its "disgusting" and "unfair" staff tipping policy.

Almost 1,500 Kingston residents have signed a petition calling on the Latin-American chain Las Iguanas, which has a branch in High Street, to stop its "pay to work" rules.

Currently, Las Iguanas employees have to pay back 3 per cent of their total sales for the night in cash at the end of every shift.

The money is meant to be paid out of a worker's gratuities pot, but bears no relation to how much or how little the waiter may actually make in tips during the shift.

The company has claimed that the policy is in place to fund training and incentive schemes for the restaurant's staff, but protesters said it made "huge profits" for the company.

Sam Hughes started a national petition, that has so far received more than 77,000 signatures, on website 38 Degrees.

He said: "I started the petition because I know people power can and will change things.

"We're sending a clear message to Las Iguanas in the High Street – you're being watched by hundreds of people who want you to stop exploiting your staff.

"If they want us to keep coming to Las Iguanas, they need to make sure 100 per cent of tips go to the staff."

A spokesman from Las Iguanas said: "Claims that we make staff pay to work are ridiculous, as that would be illegal and bears no resemblance to our policy.

"Our tipping policy has been well established for about 20 years and enables us to ensure that tips given by our guests are shared throughout the restaurant team."

● To see the petition visit **38degrees.org.uk/las-iguanas.**

Eatery: Las Iguanas in High Street Deadlinepix KT93176

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October Breaks

A great month for touring, October is a lovely time to explore our countryside with the beautiful colours of Autumn.

Chester and Charming Cheshire
Sunday 4 October

Staying in the Roman city of Chester, we visit Tatton Park, Liverpool and Port Sunlight.

Torquay and the English Riviera
Sunday 11 October

Staying on the pleasant seafront in Torquay, we tour beautiful South Devon.

Bournemouth and Beautiful Dorset
Monday 19 October

We explore this lovely county, staying at a 4 star hotel in the popular resort of Bournemouth.

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2015/6

Autumn and Spring Brochure

Selected European Breaks

Romantic Rhine Valley and Boppard
Sunday 20 September

A splendid tour exploring the picturesque Rhine and Moselle Valleys. We visit the historic cities of Rudesheim, Cochem and Koblenz. We stay at the excellent riverside Bellevue Hotel, which has welcomed our clients for over 20 years.

Crystal Waters of Lake Maggiore
Thursday 15 October

Staying at a truly excellent lakeside hotel in Stresa, we explore this beautiful region. We travel to lakes Lugano and Como, with a visit to Villa Carlotta. We ride on the scenic Centovalli train and cruise around the picturesque Borrmean Islands.

Roses, Barcelona and Beautiful Catalonia
Friday 16 October

A memorable 10 day holiday to Catalonia, staying on the seafront in Roses. We travel to Barcelona, one of the 'must see' cities in Europe. We visit picturesque Cadaques and Figueres, where you can visit the Salvador Dali Museum. Wine with dinner at main hotel included.

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ONLINE OPINION

Comment on stories at
kingstonguardian.co.uk

Consultation on future of Gosbury Hill health centre

It is not under-used at all and we were told it was not allowed to be classed as a walk-in clinic due to complaints from residents. We have always had to ring up prior to going to make an appointment and recently when we've needed it they have actually been fully booked, so under-used is an under-statement and an excuse to move something that Chessington residents find extremely useful. Yet again, we're going to be left in the lurch and forgotten and will have to revert back to ringing on the day at our own surgeries, which of course refuse to open at weekends. This is an absolute farce.

ARNIE12

Bed bugs at sheltered homes

Do they not have a tenancy agreement? And what does it say? That's the question the reporter should have asked.

BEVERLY RA

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It is essential your email or letter is headed "Complaint" in the subject line and contains the following information:

- **Your name, email address, postal address and daytime telephone number.**
- **The newspaper title or website, preferably a copy of the story or at least the date, page number or website address of the article and any headline.**
- **A full explanation of your complaint by reference to the Editors' Code.**

If you do not provide any of the information above this may delay or prevent us dealing with your complaint. Your personal details will only be used for administration purposes.

If we cannot reach a resolution between us then you can contact IPSO by email at complaints@ipso.co.uk or by post at IPSO, c/o Halton House, 20-23 Holborn, London EC1N 2JD.

If complaining about third party comments on our website articles, you should use the "report this post" function online next to the comment.

New homes could bring 600 cars – and gridlock

Kingston is a historic town. Many diverse parts make up the town and have been built over the years; from low-rise, low density buildings to high-rise ones such as the Cambridge Road estate and parts of Kingston that include the Kingston College tower. All this makes Kingston an interesting, attractive and pleasant place to live.

I have become increasingly concerned that developers are making planning applications with no reference or consideration to other planning applications next door to their own proposals.

These separate proposals are then independently assessed without any consideration as to how they may interact or impact on each other or the community.

This appears to be the case with regards to Tolworth. We have two current applications in the form of Tolworth Tower and the old Tesco site in Tolworth.

Both have been independently developed, but neither has been co-ordinated with the other. We also have the head office for Lidl, also in early stages of design, and plans for a hotel next to Tolworth station.

Both schemes might (I do say might) be acceptable on their own, although I have serious reservations and concerns about each of them.

Worryingly no one, including the Greater London Authority (GLA), appears to have looked at the overall cumulative impact of these schemes on Tolworth and residents, if they were both approved. One scheme might have an acceptable impact on traffic, but what about the combined effects?

To emphasise the point I am going to focus on two closely related elements: parking and traffic. Should the Tesco scheme be approved, there is in my view insufficient parking on the site.

We are in GLA La La land by pretending cars do not exist. It is self-evident that many families own a car and, while residents might go to work by train or bike, many will use cars in the evenings and at weekends.

Further, it would not be unreasonable to expect homes with multiple bedrooms to have multiple cars.

If you have a site with 700 homes and 1,200 bedrooms, an average of 0.5 cars per bedroom would mean the current offering of 400 parking spaces, when the reality is an absolute minimum of 600 spaces are needed, is nonsense.

No one will be able to park their car near where they live and we will have displacement parking in places like the Sunray estate, which is already full.

Consider what 600 extra vehicles will do. My forecast: gridlock.

Councillors Ian George, Chris Hayes and Andrew Day and I have started the Tolworth Deserves Better campaign, which I hope you will support by signing the petition on the council's website.

COUN RICHARD HUDSON
Alexandra ward

Borough view

This picture of a rainbow was taken in New Malden this week by Rita Harrison. To see your photo featured in Borough View, email it with details of where you took it to newsdesk@surreycomet.co.uk.

Ugly development has crept across town

With the change of administration at the council I had hoped the destruction of Kingston as a whole, and in particular the Tolworth, Hook and Chessington areas, would, if not come to a halt, at least allow some local input into the situation.

Sadly, from the evidence available, things appear to be going from bad to worse. I recently travelled on the A3 at 10.30am on a Thursday, from New Malden to Hook.

The queue of vehicles attempting to leave the A3 at Tolworth roundabout stretched back almost to Tolworth Girls' School.

Just what do the planners and administration at the Guildhall think will happen if they allow the Tolworth Tesco scheme to go ahead?

On a recent radio programme, a caller said she had visited Richmond and how nice it was. In particular she had noted the facade of buildings had been preserved. This comment made me think of the ugliness that has been allowed to spread throughout our own borough over many years.

I have to ask. Why do they always want more when the people seem to want, at best, no more and given the choice almost certainly less building taking place?

It is not often that I despair, but when I look around our borough as it is today and at what is coming I do despair at what we are leaving our children and grandchildren.

I oppose the Tolworth Tesco scheme on every level I can think of because it is in reality another step in the destruction of what not long ago was a nice, as in Richmond, area.

The major problem is, no matter who we elect, at national or local level, once in power they may listen to the people, but they pay no heed whatsoever.

At the local level, unelected planning officers have too much power and our councillors are either afraid to contradict them or, I suspect, are more than happy to hide behind their decisions.

B EKINS
Chessington

The screening of volunteers needs to be robust

The news about street pastor Paul Jacobs pleading guilty to voyeurism raises some very troubling issues concerning effective screening of volunteers.

As someone who volunteers for the Joel Community Trust night shelter, I am constantly reminded of the vulnerability of many residents.

Similarly, volunteers for Street Pastors must at all times be caring and professional in their important work.

I would request that Street Pastors' management give a clear outline of their recruiting and screening procedures, that need to be robust.

CHRIS COKE
New Malden

No cramming homes on site

Matthew Rees says the Kingston Society opposed large residential blocks for north Kingston, where he lives. Now it supports them for Tolworth, where none of the committee lives. The dereliction of the "unused" Tesco site does not justify cramming it.

Few here would call the site on the Broadway "underused", but we must be morons, living here.

The committee probably overuses the presence of Tolworth Tower to excuse big build. Just claiming to cover the whole borough does not itself convey the right to pontificate about Tolworth.

The Kingston Society committee must drop this vain and shallow pretence.

Councillor Richard Hudson's letter is really more pro-Conservatives than pro-Tolworth, as I believe the wording of their petition [Tolworth Deserves Better] confirms. He starts with housing need then moves disconnectedly to championing Tolworth.

This stinks of public relations. Neither Coun Hudson nor his named colleagues have a direct voice on the development control committee. He may expect the committee to approve the redevelopments.

Not just Tories, but Lib Dems, Labour, UKIP and others want to avoid over-development here, for all the reasons Coun Hudson gives.

MICHAEL HOPE
Tolworth

TWEETS of the WEEK

@heather_mattea: How can I be in Surbiton McDonald's after work at 1am and some woman rolls up in her wedding dress?

@Emma_Campaigner: The driver of the 1750 from Norbiton to Waterloo is whistling and singing. Possibly the only happy person on this @sw_trains.

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Raymond Gubbay present

Christmas at Kew

As twilight falls, the magic begins...

Did you know that Kew Gardens was home to one of the very first decorated Christmas trees in England? It was Queen Charlotte in the 1790s who dressed branches in one of the largest rooms at Kew Palace and when the tree was lit and all aglitter, the whole court gathered round...

Now in its third year, our new winter trail for 2015 focuses on the Christmas tree and Kew's special part in the history of our traditional celebrations. It offers something for everyone at this festive time of year as the one mile sparkling path winds its way through the world-famous botanic gardens in a magical after-dark experience.

Wander beneath unique tree canopies drenched in Christmas hues and gaze at glowing waterside reflections as clusters of illuminated fountains dance in an explosion of colour set against the iconic Palm House. Walk through playful ribbons of light, count the Christmas trees festooned with seasonal cheer and listen to the Choir of the Holly Bushes as

they twinkle in time to festive music. Stroll a fairy-tale avenue of larger than life winter flora and stop at the scented Fire Garden for a moment of reflection. Take time with family and friends to ponder the year almost over and look forward to the year to come.

Why not complete your Christmas treat under the stars with spiced cider, mulled wine or hot chocolate whilst the aroma of roasting chestnuts fills the air. Gather to toast your own marshmallows and enjoy Kew's well stocked gift shops and other traditional fare.

For the young ones, the playful atmosphere of White Peaks will welcome you with a Victorian carousel*, helter skelter* and other family rides* and don't forget to make time to see Santa and his elves along the way.

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All tickets are subject to a single transaction charge £2 per transaction for print at home tickets, £2.50 for tickets sent by first class post. £1.00 when booking tickets in person at Kew.
See kew.org/Christmas for further information and full terms and conditions. On the day prices apply from midnight on the day prior to your visit.
*Separate charges apply
Not open 30 November and 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 24, 25 December.
**Family ticket 2 adults and 2 children (aged 4-16)

25 November – 2 January

Open between 5pm – 10pm

Raymond Gubbay

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Make the headlines again

DEPUTY MANAGING GROUP EDITOR
NICK HITCHENS
nhitchens@
london.newsquest.co.uk

Newsquest's Young Reporter scheme is beginning its eighth year, offering students from around the capital the chance to publish their own news stories on to websites visited by thousands daily.

In addition, as well as appearing on all our area-specific websites, the stories will be hosted on **thisislocal london.co.uk**, covering every corner of our great city.

Designed to encourage aspiring writers and journalists to think independently, explore and enquire about the world around them and build their confidence, the scheme is open to all schools and colleges in London for pupils aged between 14 and 18.

Students start their "writing career" producing one article a month for a period of eight months and the scheme is carefully structured so that they feel they are working directly for the online newspaper.

They are given deadlines to work to and encouraged to write local articles, take photographs and then upload their work directly to our website.

Judith Forshaw, head of English at Croydon High School, said: "The Young Reporter scheme continues to give our students a unique opportunity to see their articles published for a real audience."

At the end of the programme, the students who have completed eight articles receive a letter of recognition from a Newsquest editor, congratulating them on their achievement.

Those who write their articles within the deadlines are given the opportunity to compete against other students to win prizes and spend a day at a London university.

On the write road: Successful young reporter candidates from last year's event

Kingston University hosted the event this year.

Schools have wholeheartedly endorsed this scheme as it is hard to secure work experience placements in the media and Newsquest organises the entire project, so it can be run with minimal effort from teachers.

Kathryn Pullen, headteacher, Sydenham High School, said: "This is our first year in the scheme and it has been a pleasure to see our girls rising to the challenge and publishing some excellent articles.

"We will definitely be taking part again."

Schools are now registering for this year.

For more information, call Diana Jarvis on 020 8722 6378 or email her at djarvis@london.newsquest.co.uk.

Roehampton students work hard and become highly employable graduates.

Discover 'added value' at University open day

Parents: If your child is thinking about university next year, now is the time to help them research what to study and where to apply.

Teenagers should study what they are good at and will enjoy. They should look at the content of modules within degree courses, which can vary between different universities.

Encourage your child to think whether a city or a campus-based university is best: Roehampton has one of the biggest campuses in London, and is just 30 minutes from Waterloo. Living in south London means your child could live at home and commute to the University, or stay in modern halls of residence.

It is crucial to check the 'added value' universities provide. At Roehampton, high levels of contact time mean undergraduates can talk to lecturers when they need to as well as in lectures.

Study abroad programmes, paid internships and guest speakers all boost real-world knowledge.

The best way to experience a university is at an open day and Roehampton's next one is on Saturday 3 October. Visitors can meet lecturers, find out about degrees including History, English, Psychology, Law, Journalism, Biological Sciences and many others.

Sign up now and you can tour the buildings, grounds and accommodation, find out about the social life and studying from current undergraduates who can explain the real buzz of Roehampton student life.

"When I visited Roehampton for the open day I absolutely loved the campus. I love that I can feel at home but at the same time study in the capital!"

- Chantelle Evans, modern languages graduate.

Visit **www.roehampton.ac.uk**

THE GANNETT FOUNDATION

Splash the cash to worthy causes

Charities across south London have just over a month to apply for a one-off grant from The Gannett Foundation, part of Gannett Co, parent company to Newsquest Media Group, publishers of this newspaper.

Last year three organisations were celebrating after being picked to receive more than £20,000.

Demelza Hospice, Centrepoint in Lewisham and the London Playing Fields Foundation (LPFF) picked up their cheques just before Christmas 2014.

The hospice, in Eltham, was awarded with a £9,353 cheque for a "magic carpet", Centrepoint £9,750 for their Move Through project and LPFF £2,000 for mini-soccer goals at the London Marathon Sports Ground in Shooters Hill Road, Greenwich.

Gannett Foundation grants are typically under £10,000 though this figure and higher can be secured for larger scale projects.

Top news: Centrepoint staff celebrate the good news

Cash: Andy Parkes with Jane Bayer from Centrepoint Lewisham (£9,750) and Jo McKenzie from the London Playing Fields Foundation (£2,000)

The aim is to support projects which take a creative approach to fundamental issues such as education and neighbourhood improvements, economic development, youth development, local problem-solving, assistance to disadvantaged or disabled people, environmental conservation and cultural enrichment.

The trustees will favour projects that demonstrate good planning, oversight and financial responsibility. Copies of the charity's most recent financial accounts are required. In addition, any supporting materials and further details concerning the overall aims of the charity should be included with each submission.

Application forms can be downloaded from **kingstonguardian.co.uk/gannettfoundation** and returned to sroach@london.newsquest.co.uk before the deadline of 5pm on October 16.

Her Majesty

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Queen continues to make history

More than six decades since her accession to the throne, the truly remarkable Queen Elizabeth II becomes our longest-reigning monarch

The Queen has reigned over Britain and the Commonwealth for more than 63 years – a monumental figure defined by her core beliefs of duty and service.

Removed from politics, scandal and the whims of fashion, she has been an enduring figure in the life of the nation and is recognised worldwide for the unique role she performs.

Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest reigning monarch, which is the latest highlight in a memorable life that began without any expectation of the throne.

And like the previous longest-reigning monarch, Queen Victoria, who reigned for 63 years, our head of state's many years on the throne have helped define an era.

Elizabeth Alexander Mary was born on April 21, 1926. Third in line to the throne, she had little prospect of being crowned.

But the abdication of her uncle David, Edward VIII, in 1936 changed her destiny forever.

Elizabeth was just 10 when her father became King George VI, altering her future overnight and making her heir presumptive.

The Second World War saw the young princess blossom into a confident young woman of 19.

In 1947, she wed Prince Philip of Greece, and within a year of marriage they produced an heir to the throne.

Their first son, Charles Philip Arthur George, was born on November 14, 1948, and their second child, Anne Elizabeth Alice Louise, on August 15, 1950.

It was during an official visit to Kenya that news of the King's death was broken to the Queen by her husband, and Britain's 26-year-old monarch flew home to assume her role.

Five years earlier, during a visit to South Africa, on the day of her 21st birthday, the Queen gave her famous vow to serve the Commonwealth.

She said: "I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."

The coronation on June 2, 1953, was a bright and joyous spectacle in a post-war capital.

The Queen got to know her subjects by first undertaking national visits, then a mammoth Commonwealth tour – taking in five continents over six months and travelling 60,000 miles.

The Queen's third child, Andrew Albert Christian Edward, was born on February 19, 1960, followed by their fourth and final child, Edward Anthony Richard Louis, on March 10, 1964.

All four of the Queen and Prince Philip's children grew up and got married.

But the royal marriages did not last and the monarch endured a terrible year in 1992 when Charles separated from Princess Diana, the Duke and Duchess of York split and the Princess Royal divorced Captain Phillips.

The trials of the decade were not over for the Queen, as she faced criticism following the death of Diana in a Paris car crash in 1997.

But five years later, her Golden Jubilee in 2002 proved to be a momentous occasion and showed there was still massive support for the Queen.

Public affection for the monarch has been boosted further following the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, her Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the birth of Prince George and Princess Charlotte.

For her part, the Queen has remained true to the pledge she made as a 21-year-old, dedicating herself to the nation and beyond.

What do we really know about the woman who has ruled for 63 years?

Think you know all there is to know about our long-reigning monarch? Well, think again…

Technophile

Ever one to embrace new technology, in 1976 the Queen was the first monarch to send an 'electronic message', a precursor to today's email. She now emails on the go via a Blackberry at the suggestion of her tech-savvy son, the Duke of York.

Music lover

What does the Queen listen to on her iPod? Why, the rousing choruses of the Last Night of the Proms, which includes Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and the National Anthem, naturally. One of her collection of iPods was a gift from American President Barack Obama.

Lady of letters

She has apparently answered a whopping 3.5 million items of correspondence. She and the Duke of Edinburgh have also sent around 45,000 Christmas cards during her reign. Wonder if she uses the Royal Mail?

In the saddle

The Queen has been riding since she was four years old, before most children can even read or write. Her grandfather, King George V, gave the Queen her first pony, a Shetland called Peggy.

Woman's best friend

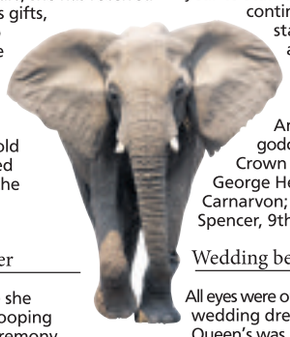
She is famously also a dog lover, but did you know that many of her corgis have descended from her first pet Susan, who was an 18th birthday present from her parents? Her current corgis are Willow and Holly.

Rare breed

The Queen introduced a new breed of dog known as the 'dorgi', which came about when one of her corgis mated with a dachshund named Pipkin, who belonged to Princess Margaret. She also breeds Labradors and cocker spaniels at Sandringham.

Animal magic

On foreign tours, she has received live animals as gifts, including two tortoises in the Seychelles, two black beavers in Canada and a seven-year-old elephant called Jumbo from the president of Cameroon.



A real trooper

The only time she missed the Trooping the Colour ceremony was in 1955 when the parade was cancelled due to a national strike.

Party girl

On average, the Queen hosts more than 50,000 people at banquets, lunches and dinners at Buckingham Palace every year.

Christmas greetings

In 1953, she made what would become her annual Christmas Day broadcast, live from New Zealand. The first televised broadcast came four years later and she's made one every year since, apart from 1969, when it was replaced by a repeat of TV film Royal Family and a written message.

Behind the wheel

The Queen learned to drive in 1945 when she joined the Army, and is regularly seen driving a Jaguar. She is apparently the only person in the UK permitted to drive without a licence and her cars don't need to have number plates.

Doing the honours

The Queen holds around 25 Investitures each year. The majority happen in the Ballroom at Buckingham Palace, but others take place at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh, in the Waterloo Chamber at Windsor Castle and sometimes at Cardiff Castle in Wales. She gives out Christmas puddings every year to staff as festive gifts, continuing the custom started by George V and George VI.

Fairy godmother

Among the Queen's godchildren are Serbia's Crown Prince Alexander; George Herbert, 8th Earl of Carnarvon; and Charles Spencer, 9th Earl Spencer.

Wedding belle

All eyes were on Kate Middleton's wedding dress in 2011, but the Queen's was just as sensational. Designed by Norman Hartnell, it was made of silk woven by Chinese silkworms at Lullingstone Castle, Dartford.

Guiding gift

Her wedding cake was made by McVitie and Price using ingredients given as a wedding gift by the Australian Girl Guides. The Queen was herself a Girl Guide, back in 1937.

Football fan

The first football match the Queen attended was the 1953 FA Cup Final, just a month before her Coronation. Blackpool beat Bolton Wanderers 4-3.

Life in pictures

Her majesty sat for her first and only 3D hologram portrait in 2003. The blue-tinged image of the unsmiling Queen, which appears to move as people walk past, was created by the light artist Chris Levine and is just one of more than 130 portraits she has sat for.

One's behind you!

As a girl, the Queen took part in pantomimes at Windsor Castle during the Second World War. She once played Prince Florizel in Cinderella.

Royal flush

Due to a statute dating from 1324, the Queen still owns the sturgeons, whales and dolphins in the waters around the UK, which are recognised as 'Fishes Royal'. When captured within three miles of shore, or washed ashore, they may be claimed on behalf of the Crown.

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Extraordinary life of our British monarch

From her childhood through her 63 years on the throne, we take a look back at the highs and lows of the life of Queen Elizabeth II

As the nation celebrates the Queen becoming our longest reigning monarch, she is more popular than ever.

And it's no surprise – along with her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria, Elizabeth II is only the second monarch in British history to surpass 60 years on the throne.

It's easy to forget that had it not been for a scandalous twist of fate – when her uncle fell in love with American socialite Wallis Simpson – Elizabeth would never have become Queen at all.

King Edward VIII had reigned for less than a year, when he abdicated in 1936 in order to marry Simpson, and as a result Elizabeth's father became king, changing the course of the young princess' life forever.

Today, Queen Elizabeth II is such an iconic part of our cultural identity that it is hard to imagine Britain without her.

Here is a look back at her extraordinary life…

ABOVE: Crowds gather as the Queen and Prince Philip make a royal visit to St Helens back in 1961

The early years

Born at 2.40am on April 21, 1926, at 17 Bruton Street in Mayfair, London, Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary was the first child of the then Duke and Duchess of York.

In August 1930, Princess Margaret was born and, aged four, Elizabeth became a big sister.

At this time, the young princess was only third in line to the throne, so the concerns and responsibilities that come with being Sovereign were far from the family's minds.

However, despite their privilege, home education and rarely being able to venture out saw Elizabeth and Margaret have sheltered and isolated childhoods.

Young Elizabeth's biggest joy was animals. At the tender age of three, she had her first riding lesson, and a year later she was given her first pony, Peggy.

At 18, her parents gave her Susan – her very first corgi – again marking the start of an unending devotion to the breed.

By her teenage years, Elizabeth knew that her destiny had taken a different course – she was 10 when her father became king, and from then on the young princess was groomed for her role as probable future queen.

Burying herself in books, Elizabeth studied constitutional history and law, and became fluent in French, to prepare herself for the task ahead.

Aged 14, after the outbreak of the Second World War in 1940, she made her first radio broadcast, speaking on Children's Hour.

"When peace comes, remember it will be for us, the children of today, to make the world of tomorrow a better and happier place," she told youngsters in the UK and across the Commonwealth.

The Queen took to her royal duties effortlessly

At 15, as a future head of the Armed Forces, Elizabeth was appointed Colonel of the Grenadier Guards and took part in more public appearances.

Keen to do her bit, at 18 Elizabeth joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS), and became No. 230873 Second Subaltern Elizabeth Windsor, training as a driver and mechanic before being promoted to Junior Commander.

Royal romance

Inheriting the throne still seemed a long way off – at this stage Elizabeth had other things on her mind, such as falling in love with her handsome distant cousin, Prince Philip of Greece.

They'd attended the same family functions occasionally as children, but their first proper meeting happened in 1939 – Elizabeth was 13 when she accompanied her parents on a visit to the naval college in Dartmouth, where an 18-year-old cadet, Philip, impressed the young princess by leaping over tennis nets! They began writing to each other, and six years on their engagement was announced.

Elizabeth married Philip at Westminster Abbey on November 20, 1947 – a welcome boost for weary post-war Britain.

In November 1948, aged 22, she became a mother, with the birth of her first son, Charles, followed by Anne, in 1950.

Becoming Queen

As her father's health was failing, Elizabeth was needed back in Britain.

The King spent many hours giving her advice and she began standing in for him at official engagements.

He underwent surgery for a malignant growth in his lung. Soon after, in 1952, a major overseas tour had to be taken over by Elizabeth and Philip.

On the eve of their departure to Kenya, the King took his family on an outing to the theatre.

A week later, on February 6, 1952, George VI died aged 56.

Despite being heartbroken, miles from home and a mere 25 years old, Elizabeth handled her premature transition into head monarch with the calm and composed nature that was to become her trademark trait.

Asked what name she wanted to use as Queen, she replied simply: "My own name, of course. Elizabeth."

Elizabeth II's coronation took place the following year, on June 2, 1953. TV cameras were

brought into Westminster Abbey so the historic event could be broadcast to some 27 million people across Britain.

Dressed in a gem-encrusted white satin gown, the Queen paraded to Westminster Abbey in the Gold State Coach.

After the Archbishop of Canterbury placed the majestic St Edward's Crown on the young Queen's head, Philip knelt before her, pledging to be his wife's 'liege man of life and limb'.

Testing times

The early years of the Queen's reign were free from personal tragedies, but in 1979 that changed, when Prince Philip's uncle, Lord Mountbatten, was killed, along with his grandson Nicholas, 14, and a 17-year-old boatman, by an IRA bomb.

Despite calls for the Queen to surround herself with Hollywood-style bodyguards, she immediately rejected, insisting it was her duty to remain a public figurehead for the country.

Two years on, she herself was the target of a shooting incident, as millions watched her ride to the Trooping the Colour ceremony. Thankfully, the 17-year-old youth responsible had fired blanks, and remarkably the Queen simply composed her horse and carried on.

In 1982, she endured another terrifying experience, waking in the night in Buckingham Palace to find an intruder at the end of her bed.

The 90s were testing times for the Queen, with her famously dubbing 1992 her 'annus horriblis'. The decade also saw her contend with a blaze at Windsor Castle, revelations from Diana's book and the Duke and Duchess of York separating

Michael Fagan had not only climbed the palace wall, as many had before, but succeeded in getting into the royal residence.

Quick thinking, the Queen kept things calm by casually engaging Fagan in conversation for 10 minutes, until help arrived.

Undeniably the worst period in Elizabeth II's life was the 1990s. At the end of 1992, the Queen dubbed it her 'annus horribilis' – in the past 12 months, the Prince and Princess of Wales had been at war with one another, the Duke and Duchess of York separated, Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips divorced and Windsor Castle went up in flames.

Public sympathy was thin on the ground, especially when fears arose that taxpayers' money could be used to foot the £40 million repair bill.

The Queen made an historic announcement that she would pay tax on her income and cut the size of the Civil List, and took the decision to open Buckingham Palace to the paying public for the first time, to help pay for the restoration.

In 1997, the death of Diana, following a high-speed car crash in Paris, led to a massive outpouring of public grief.

The Queen was criticised for failing to join the public and speak publicly immediately.

She was at Balmoral, taking care of her young grandsons, William and Harry, protecting them from intrusion.

When she finally addressed the nation, the Queen reminded us all: "It is not easy to express a sense of loss, since the initial shock is often succeeded by a mixture of other feelings: disbelief, incomprehension, anger – and concern for those who remain. We have all felt those emotions in these last few days.

"So what I say to you now, as your Queen and as a grandmother, I say from my heart."

Five years later the Queen suffered a double loss when her mother died at the grand old age of 101, a few weeks after her sister, Princess Margaret, passed away aged 71.

The dazzling diamond years

Following her Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2012, the Queen is more radiant than ever.

Her family life is enjoying a golden period, with William and Kate's wedding and the birth of their children George and Charlotte real high points.

Recent years have seen a series of monumental achievements for the Queen.

In November 2007, she and Philip celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary.

Her fondness for animals is as strong as ever – Her Majesty has been a regular on the horse racing scene, winning trophies at all the major events, and she has owned more than 30 corgis to date.

In May 2011, the Queen visited Ireland – the first British monarch to do so since 1911.

Perhaps the most publicly active monarch ever, the Queen has kept to a rigid daily routine throughout her reign. A typical day will see her rise at 7.30am for breakfast and a walk with the dogs. At 9.30am she will begin her official tasks, reading through Cabinet papers and other official documents, and sometimes having private audiences with bishops and judges and the like – every Wednesday she meets with the Prime Minister.

The marriage of Prince William and Kate Middleton proved a pivotal point in popularity of the royal family

Though concerns for the Queen and Philip's health have forced them to scale back their duties over recent years, they are still incredibly busy, as patrons to more than 600 charities and organisations, and travelling up and down the country on visits.

It is easy to forget that Her Majesty is now 89 years old. And now, as we prepare for her becoming the longest-reigning monarch ever, she is on top form, embracing the excitement that has swept the nation, a shining symbol of hope to us all.

Long live the Queen.

Home is where the heart is

A great number of people moving into Care Homes are doing so because they do not realise that staying at home is a realistic alternative.

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Sovereign ahead of the times

A forward-thinking and remarkable woman, her reign has been groundbreaking in many ways

The Queen is not the first Elizabeth to wear the crown, but she has broken new ground in so many ways during her long reign.

While the world around her has transformed rapidly since her accession, the monarch has also seen vast changes in her private and public life…

❖ The Queen has travelled more extensively than any other monarch in history. Technically, her first overseas trip was to Kenya in 1952 – she embarked on the visit as Princess Elizabeth and returned home as the Queen.

❖ During her reign she has travelled to countries that no British monarch has ever visited, including China in 1986, Brunei and Malaysia in 1998 and Korea in 1999.

❖ Amid a huge security operation, she made her first visit to the Republic of Ireland in May 2011.

❖ After her coronation in 1953, in her role as head of the Commonwealth she visited Bermuda, Jamaica, Fiji, Tonga, New Zealand, Australia, Ceylon, Uganda, Malta and Gibraltar, travelling a total distance of 43,618 miles.

The Queen, along with Prince Philip initiated the 'walkabout'

❖ History was made in the reciprocal state visits of the Queen and South African President Nelson Mandela, in 1995 and 1996.

❖ During her sovereignty she has visited places that were previously off limits, including the former countries of the Eastern Bloc: Hungary in 1993, Russia in 1994 and Poland and the Czech Republic in 1996.

❖ The Queen paid a historic visit to communist Yugoslavia in 1972 and was the first British sovereign to travel to the Middle East in 1979.

❖ In 1970, the Queen and Prince Philip initiated a new practice, the 'walkabout', so they could meet as many people as possible during a visit.

❖ She broadcast her first Christmas message in 1952 live on the radio, from a study at her Sandringham Estate, Norfolk. She paid tribute to her late father and asked people to remember her at the time of her coronation the following June.

❖ She made the annual address on television for the first time in 1957, and eight years later the Queen broadcast her first Commonwealth Day message, addressing issues facing the organisation.

❖ The Queen became the first sovereign to have celebrated a diamond wedding anniversary when she and the Duke of Edinburgh marked 60 years of marriage in 2007.

❖ Winston Churchill was the first of 13 Prime Ministers she has dealt with during her reign. The others are Sir Anthony Eden, Harold Macmillan, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, Harold Wilson, Edward Heath, James Callaghan, Margaret Thatcher, John Manor, Tony Blair, Gordon Brown and David Cameron.

❖ The Queen and Prince Philip have four children, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Their first child, the Prince of Wales, was born in 1948, and their first grandchild, Peter Phillips, in 1977. Savannah Phillips, daughter of Peter and Autumn Phillips, became her first great-grandchild when she was born in 2010.

❖ She is the first British monarch to see three of her children divorce. Prince Charles divorced Diana, Princess of Wales in 1996, the Princess Royal broke off her marriage to Captain Mark Phillips in 1992 and the marriage of the Duke of York and Sarah Ferguson ended in 1996.

The Queen and Prince Philip have been married 67 years

❖ The Queen is the first monarch to pay income tax to the Government, the first to open the State Rooms and Buckingham Palace to the public and the first to give permission for the American national anthem to be played during Changing the Guard (after the 9/11 attacks).

❖ She is the first royal to have been awarded a gold disc by the recording industry. The Party at the Palace CD, a recording of a pop and classical concert held to celebrate her Golden Jubilee, sold 100,000 copies within the first week of release in 2002.

❖ A video clip of the Queen has been preserved inside a container on the Moon. A congratulatory message she recorded for the Apollo II astronauts in 1969 was micro-filmed and deposited there.

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Nation unites for a momentous occasion

Rationing, pollution and squalid living conditions affected many Britons on the Queen's accession in 1952 – but that didn't stop them from getting together to celebrate her coronation

Britain was still recovering from the turmoil of the Second World War when the Queen came to the throne in early 1952.

The relief of peacetime was short lived, as a nation ravaged by war sombrely returned to life amid desperate standards of living – conditions which today would be regarded as Third World circumstances.

The shadow of war hung darkly over day-to-day routine. Extensive and actively maintained bomb sites were common features of otherwise sleepy rural towns, while a trip to the grocers would find tea rationed and butter and meat under restricted access.

Furthermore, just seven years had passed since the end of the Second World War, but growing tension between Russia and the USA trickled over the front pages of national newspapers and into the conversations of war-weary friends, parents and veterans – the Cold War was already hotting up.

Just three weeks after the Queen's accession, Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the Commons that Britain had developed an atomic bomb. Tested later in the year off the north west coast of Australia, it was more a sign of Britain's involvement in a potentially devastating conflict than a reassuring safeguard to ease worries.

A few weeks later, the departure of a Comet airliner from London to Johannesburg signalled the start of the jet travel – and warfare! – but later that year 26 spectators died when a de Havilland 110 fighter aircraft ploughed into the crowd at the Farnborough Airshow in Hampshire.

It was merely one of a series of disasters that scarred 1952, and it almost typified the mood of the nation.

It's fair to say that Britons had endured two of the toughest decades in their history, and other than the parties which broke out when the end of the war was announced, it seemed there was little reason to celebrate.

However, the following year the nation would unite as it had throughout the war – their new Queen was being crowned on June 2, 1953, and all the stops had to be pulled out to mark this unique and exciting occasion.

The fact that the decision to televise the coronation sparked huge television sales is evidence of the population's support of their new, young monarch – before 1953 few families owned television sets, but by the time the coronation came around they were commonplace.

This enabled large groups of friends and family to get together to watch the ceremony, rather than huddling in silence around a wireless.

Queen Elizabeth II's coronation ceremony at Westminster Abbey

> "Throughout all my life, and with all my heart, I shall strive to be worthy of your trust

About 27 million people watched on television while around 11 million listened on the radio, and when the ceremony was over these individual groups took to the streets to celebrate in unity as a nation, as street parties broke out across the country.

Most neighbourhoods had been scrubbed clean and were decked in union jack bunting and flags, tables and food had been laid out and games were held for children to enjoy.

Needless to say, Westminster Abbey was packed with esteemed guests from across the realm.

The coronation service fell into six segments: the recognition, the oath, the anointing, the investiture (which includes the crowning), the enthronement and the homage.

Led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the service saw the Queen presented with various symbols of royalty by members of the church and state.

This included the Lord Great Chamberlain presenting golden spurs (the symbol of chivalry), after which the Archbishop of Canterbury produced a jewelled sword, and then the armills, which are golden bracelets of sincerity and wisdom.

Finally, the Queen put on a stole and cloth of gold (the Imperial Mantle) and received the orb, the coronation ring, the glove and the sceptre.

The orb, made in the same year as the crown (1661), is a gold globe mounted by a cross and decorated by a band of diamonds, emeralds, rubies, sapphires and pearls, with a large amethyst at the summit.

Amid raucous celebrations and adoring crowds, the new Queen emerged from the Abbey to greet her subjects and allow them to see her wearing the crown.

Over seven kilometres in length, the return procession to Buckingham Palace took the Queen and the other 16,000 participants around two hours to complete.

And, to further stamp the memory in the minds of the Commonwealth, it was learned that Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay had reached the summit of Mount Everest.

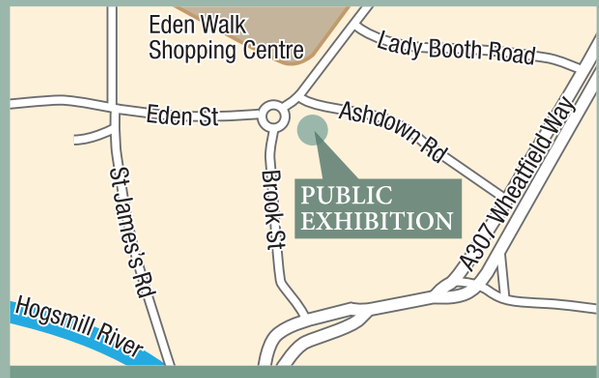
While the nation continued to face a long period of post-war recovery, hope for the future was renewed on June 2, 1953 – the populace had united in a day of joy and celebration for the first time since the end of the war, and their new Queen was a symbol of change and youth.

Her promise to her people would ring true over the next 60 years: "I have in sincerity pledged myself to your service, as so many of you are pledged to mine. Throughout all my life, and with all my heart, I shall strive to be worthy of your trust."

The Old Post Office Site

Public Exhibition

Friday 18 September 2015 10am-7pm
Saturday 19 September 2015 10am-4pm
At The Old Post Office, 42 Eden Street, Kingston KT1 1AA



St George submitted amendments to The Old Post Office Site planning application in response to feedback from the local community, stakeholders and statutory consultees.

For more information please join us for a public exhibition which will explain the planning application amendments.

Computer generated image of Ashdown Road looking towards The Old Post Office

www.theoldpostofficekingston.com

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jtp
Patel Taylor

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Good work continues

Epsom and Ewell High School has continued to build on its huge success over the last 6 years with another set of strong exam results at both GCSE and A level.

We have record numbers attending the sixth form and are full in year 7.

The school is set to expand further over the next few years but retains lower than average class sizes and specialist teachers in every area. The school is led by an established and experienced leadership team with its headteacher, Alex Russell, a national leader of education.

The school leads a multi-academy trust, The Bourne Education Trust, made up of 4 secondary and 3 primary schools. As one of the Department of Education's national support schools, we have a strong record in successfully providing school-to-school support, reflecting the best practice that characterises us.

Ofsted said that Epsom and Ewell High "is a school that is exceptionally well led. Achievement has risen steeply and behaviour is exemplary. Staff and students alike can achieve outstandingly well."

We know that what we have to offer your child is special and we look forward to welcoming you to our Open Evening on Thursday, October 1, at 6pm (when the head will speak at 6pm and 7pm) and to see the school at work on any morning during the week commencing Monday, October 5, from 9am.

Platform for success

Parch Hill Tutoring Academy is the leading supplementary education provider in Croydon providing Maths and English tuition for over 500 students on a weekly basis.

The organisation, which is childcare Ofsted registered, has gained a fantastic reputation for providing high quality private tuition at an affordable price. Based on Mitcham Road near Lombard roundabout, Primary and secondary school students aged 5-16 travel from far and wide to attend lessons in the evenings and weekends, for two hours weekly.

The Academy is an 11+ and GCSE specialist and has helped many of its students gain entry into some of the best grammar schools in South London. Pupils are taught in small groups of no more than six students, in classes that are designed to be interactive and dynamic.

The tutoring staff encompasses a vast array of fully qualified teachers and examiners, working alongside a passionate and ambitious set of graduates from some of the country's top universities.

To book a FREE parent-tutor consultation and find out how Parch Hill can help your child, CALL 020 3092 3093, or email croydon@ParchHill.com.

Alternatively, visit the website for more information at ParchHill.com

Bright future ahead for keen students

Southern Tutors' head office is in Epsom and provides fully checked, qualified teachers to tutor all ages and subjects in Surrey, London, Sussex, Oxfordshire and beyond.

Jane Race, Southern Tutors' Managing Director (pictured), was delighted that so many of the students helped by Southern Tutors staff have excelled themselves in this year's GCSE and A level exams.

This follows the excellent results for Grammar School entrance achieved by Southern Tutors' students who attended the Saturday Morning Classes and Holiday courses held at Rosebery School in Epsom.

Southern Tutors

Courses are held in all the school holidays, except Christmas, and the children who attend make great progress in maths, English and Reasoning, enabling them to achieve higher scores both at school and in the grammar and private school entrance exams.

Parents with younger siblings of successful candidates are keen to enrol their children.

Courses run from 9.30am to 3.30pm. Mock exams are taken at the end of the summer weeks and advice on exam technique is given.

There are a few spaces on the Saturday morning courses and the next holiday course is in October half term week. Call 07710 39842 or visit southerntutors.co.uk

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PUPIL INFORMATION MORNINGS
28 September, 10 November

SIXTH FORM INFORMATION EVENING
22 September

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SAVE THE DATE

Epsom & Ewell High School
Open Evening
Thursday 1st October 2015
6pm-9pm
Ruxley Lane, West Ewell, Surrey, KT19 9JW

Bourne Education Trust | Epsom & Ewell High School | National Support School

Ursuline High School
Wimbledon

SERVIAM

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Design AKA

THIS WEEK'S REASONS TO GO OUT

THEATRE **The Wars of the Roses – Henry VI at The Rose Theatre, Kingston, from Wednesday.** The Rose's mammoth season of a trilogy of Shakespeare's tales of the Wars of the Roses directed by Sir Trevor Nunn starts this week with Henry VI. Tickets cost from £5. Go to **rosetheatrekingston.org**.

MUSIC **Wheatus at the Hippodrome, Kingston, on Thursday (September 17).** They're no longer teenage dirtbags, but Brendon B Brown still rocks out as the band celebrates its 15th anniversary with a tour that takes in Kingston. Go to **kingsthippodrome.co.uk**.

MUSIC **The Young 'Uns at Ram Folk Club at Old Cranleighan Club, Esher, on Friday (September 11).** The Young 'Uns are all celebrating their 30th birthdays this year. They may not be so young any more but their love for the music makes for a night described as "riotous and uproariously funny". Tickets cost £10 for members and £12 non-members. Go to **theramclub.co.uk**.

FILM **Everest (3D) out Friday (September 18).** An incredible ensemble cast including Jake Gyllenhaal, Keira Knightley, Josh Brolin and Emily Watson star in this mountain epic based on the real events of a 1996 disaster on Mount Everest.

OUTDOORS **Healthy Walk in Pyrford from 10.15am on Saturday.** Get out and about on a leisurely two-mile walk around Wey Navigation and Pyrford Golf Course, which may well involve a stop for coffee and/or a visit to Dunsborough Park. The walk meets at the lane opposite the former Wyllie and Mar in Ripley GU23 6AR.

Vibe

DOUBLE TROUBLE

East Sheen actor Tom Hardy stars as both Kray twins in the new blockbuster, Legend. Directed by Brian Helgeland, who won an Oscar for the screenplay for LA Confidential, the crime thriller tells the story of east end twins Ronnie and Reggie who rose to become two of the most notorious gangsters in history. How well do you know the Krays? Take our quiz...

1) What was the name of the policeman, played by Christopher Eccleston in Legend, credited with bringing down the Krays?
A) Jim Malone
B) Leonard 'Nipper' Read
C)Frederick Abberline
D) Jim Garrison

2) The Krays were born 10 minutes apart, but who was the elder?
A) Ronnie
B) Reggie

3) What was the name of Ronnie and Reggie's older brother?
A) Charlie
B) Harry
C) Kenny
D) Bobby

4) What was the name of the nightclub run by the Krays in the 1960s?
A) The Astor Club
B) Esmeralda's Barn
C) The Establishment
D) The Hacienda

5) In which pub did Ronnie Kray shoot George Cornell in March 1966?
A) The Carpenter's Arms
B) Anchor and Hope
C) The King's Head
D) The Blind Beggar

6) Ronnie Kray was alleged to have had an affair with which Conservative peer?
A) Robert Boothby
B) John Profumo
C) Antony Lambton
D) Jeremy Thorpe

7) What was the name of the Krays' beloved mum?
A) Rose
B) Heather
C) Violet
D) Flora

8) Ronnie and Reggie's grandad encouraged the boys to take up amateur boxing, what was his name?
A) Jimmy 'Cannonball' Lee
B) Jack 'Kid' Berg
C) Dick Corbett
D) Tommy 'Hurricane' Rogers

9) Who did Reggie murder in a basement in Stoke Newington in 1967, ultimately leading to the twins' imprisonment?
A) Charles 'Darby' Sabini
B) 'Mad' Teddy Smith
C) Jack 'the Hat' McVitie
D) Tommy 'Ginger' Marks

10) The Krays were regulars of the then-named Cambridge Arms and Rooms (it later became a Krispy Kreme) in which south-west London town?
A) New Malden
B) Surbiton
C) Kingston
D) Norbiton

11) Which south London brothers' gang was a rival to the Krays' 'firm'?
A) The Peckham Boys
B) The Sugarhill Gang
C) Inter City Firm
D) The Richardsons

12) Who was Reggie's wife (played by Emily Browning) from 1965 until her death in 1967?
A) Maude
B) Frances
C) Jean
D) Tess

ANSWERS:
1B, 2B, 3A, 4B, 5D, 6A, 7C, 8A, 9C, 10A, 11D, 12B

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EVENTS Add yours to our online listings for FREE yourlocalguardian.co.uk/events

PET OF THE WEEK

Labrador-spaniel cross Murphy has only been with Leigh Walker and family for three weeks but he's already part of their household.

The seven-year-old came to the Walkers through the RSPCA at Godstone. Leigh says: "He has a lovely temperament and he likes chewing flip-flops and socks.

"We are a family of four and our two daughters Grace, eight, and Olivia, five, love taking Murphy for a walk. He is a lovely addition to the Walker family."

Nominate your pet by emailing jim.palmer@london.newsquest.co.uk.

LINK TO THE BARD

Shakespearean paintings will be exhibited and sold at Kingston's Rose Theatre to tie in with its feted The Wars of the Roses production, *writes Jim Palmer*.

Kingston artist and former theatre director John Link, who now works from Brighton, presents his exhibition Much Ado About Love in the theatre's front-of-house spaces from September 16 to November 21.

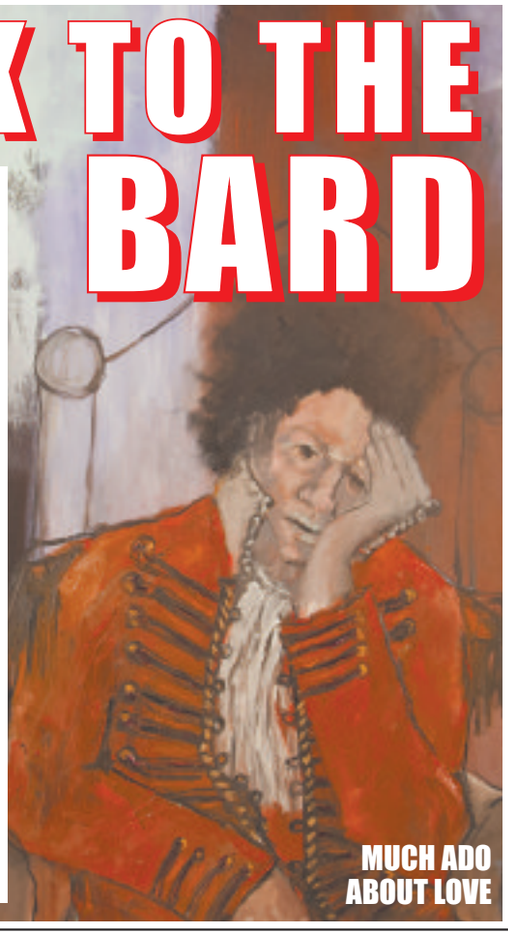
The artist has a reputation for his contemporary interpretations of Shakespeare's characters.

Actress Judi Dench says: "I have been a fan of John Link's work from the moment I first saw it. The portraits are bright and colourful, which I love. You know immediately which character is being portrayed, and you know there is a story there somewhere. I would fill my house with these paintings if I had the room."

The exhibition – open from 10am to 6pm, Monday to Saturday, and during performance times on Sundays and evenings – ties in with the theatre's The Wars of the Roses, a trilogy of Henry VI, Edward IV and Richard III.

Legendary director Sir Trevor Nunn is in charge of the plays whose cast includes the likes of Joely Richardson.

● **Visit rosetheatrekingston.org.**



MUCH ADO ABOUT LOVE

Vibe

MICHAEL FASSBENDER

FEAST OF FILM

A star-studded programme has been announced for next month's London Film Festival.

The British Film Institutes 59th annual celebration features 238 fiction and documentary features packed in across cinemas in the West End and a choice few others around the capital – including Brixton's The Ritzy – over 12 days.

Featuring 16 World premieres and 40 European premieres, the festival opens with a red carpet gala screening of Suffragette on October 17, which stars Carey Mulligan, Helena Bonham Carter and Meryl Streep.

It closes on October 18 with the European premiere of Danny Boyle's biopic Steve Jobs, which stars Michael Fassbender as the Apple bigwig.

Boyle's previous films Slumdog Millionaire (2008) and 127 Hours (2010) have also had the honour of closing the festival.

Other gala screenings include premieres of awards-favourites such as Carol, starring Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara; Trumbo starring Bryan Cranston; Johnny Depp, Benedict Cumberbatch and Joel Edgerton in the crime drama Black Mass; Brooklyn, starring Domhnall Gleeson and adapted by Nick Hornby; and Maggie Smith starring in Nicholas Hytner's adaptation of Alan Bennett's The Lady in the Van.

Hollywood stars expected to attend includes Meryl Streep, Kate Winslet, Michael Fassbender, Benedict Cumberbatch, Alan Bennett, Maggie Smith, Tom Hiddleston, Colin Farrell and Cate Blanchett.

● **London Film Festival is from October 7 to 18. For more information visit bfi.org.uk/lff.**

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No traders, refreshment sellers, dogs

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Sunday 27th September
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More dates: www.hookcarbootsale.com or 07788132977

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SLIMMING WORLD HAS CHANGED LAURA'S LIFE IN MORE THAN ONE WAY!

With two young boys and a full time job, finding time to focus on herself was always a challenge for Laura. Pretty much a lifelong dieter who had tried every diet going, Laura finally found the solution that worked with Slimming World.

"Ever since my teens, my weight has yo-yoed. Losing it was never the problem, it was keeping it off which posed the greatest challenge. Making time for myself once a week seemed such a huge luxury. But the support and warm welcome I have found at Slimming World, along with the great variety of simple and tasty recipes the whole family can enjoy, has meant the weight this time has come off and stayed off. I have now lost 22lbs – meaning I am well on my way to my two stone target."

Laura, has also found that losing weight has given her greater confidence. "Before I always felt very self-conscious doing exercise. Now, my weekly ISO Barre class is as much a regular fixture in my diary as my Slimming World group."

Being able to still enjoy her much loved weekly roast dinner has meant she hasn't had to give up her favourite food. "On other diets I was constantly having to measure, count and go without the food I loved. I was always hungry. Food Optimising at Slimming World means I can choose from a huge selection of free and speed foods that I don't have to weigh and fit easily into my busy day. Plus, I enjoy my favourite biscuit with a cup of tea in the afternoon".

Slimming World has not only given Laura the weight loss she has so longed for but is now giving her a whole new career! "I am so excited to become a Slimming World consultant and help other people reach their weight loss goals".

When asked for her top tip, Laura is very clear, "Stay for the group meeting. Making that time each week for 'me' allowed me to plan for the week and hear from others ideas for recipes and how to handle situations such as meals out, BBQs etc. It was really valuable and, at times, a lifeline."

For more information about Laura's Slimming World Group at the Kingston Quaker Centre, Fairfield East starting on Tuesday 15th September at 5:30pm & 7:30pm contact her on 07757808377.

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PROPERTY

kingstonguardian.co.uk/homes

GET ON THE MARKET

A lack of properties coming on to the market coupled with increased demand from purchasers is pushing valuations higher.

That means that now is an ideal time to market your property if you've been considering a move.

Likewise, if you've pondered becoming a landlord, demand in the rental sector is similarly buoyant and we're seeing good quality properties let quickly.

Andrews' own in-house figures speak for themselves: there has been a 10 per cent rise in people registering to either buy or let a property this summer compared to figures from the same period in 2014, and Andrews have taken 16 per cent more calls during the summer too – this is normally a time during which enquiries drop off due to holidays.

Of course, the property market as a whole has enjoyed growth as we emerge from the economic downturn, but this year in particular has posed some interesting conditions that have, in part, led to the position of high demand and low supply that we're currently experiencing.

The general election created a hiatus in the property market, impacting both sales and lettings, and it has taken longer than anticipated for the market to bounce back. However, as the figures clearly demonstrate this bounce back is now firmly under way and as such we anticipate the remainder of this year to be incredibly busy.

Andrews have seen an increase in customers looking to either purchase or let a property, at the same time many sellers continue to practice caution and are waiting to market their property until they have found one which they wish to purchase.

This dip could be as significant as 10 per cent fewer properties overall coming on to the market this year and whilst improvements in market conditions since the election have improved this situation, the rate is still six per cent below 2014 figures.

This compounds the supply issues and as such Andrews are working to encourage customers to put their properties up for sale at the outset of their own search in order to create more overall choice within the market.

Demand in the lettings market is also buoyant and good quality properties are being let quickly at good rates.

With increased interest in buy-to-let since pension reforms earlier this year, there really is no better time to consider a move to becoming a landlord.

Indeed, whether you're looking to sell or let your property, with a branch in Orpington Andrews is the place to head to for advice and guidance on how to best benefit from the current market conditions.

Visit andrewsonline.co.uk for more information.

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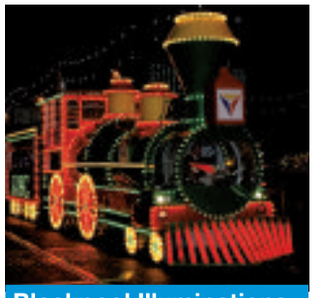

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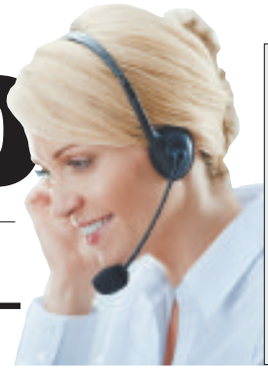

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The current rate is £37.00 a session.

Please note that as this is a Girl's School, this post is open to female applicants only and is exempt and compliant with Genuine Occupational Requirement of the Equality Act 2010.

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We also require an experienced cleaner to join our team, working 25 hours a week throughout the year with four weeks holiday, plus paid Bank Holidays. The rate of pay is £9.16 an hour.

The closing date for both posts is noon on the 18th September 2015
Interviews will be held week commencing the 21st September 2015

Further details and how to apply are set out on the School's website www.lehs.org.uk

Applications must be made on the School's application form and CV's will not be considered and should not be submitted.

The Lady Eleanor Holles School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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Please visit our website for further information and an application form.

Closing date: Noon on Thursday, 17th September 2015.

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For further details, please download details from our website, www.southborough.kingston.sch.uk or e-mail the school on office@southborough.kingston.sch.uk. Closing date for applications is noon on Wednesday 23 September, with interviews to be held the following week.

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To apply please download an application form from our website www.sgn.co.uk or request one from jobs@sgn.co.uk or alternately call Edward Blacklock on 01293 818 229 quoting reference number 15181EXT.

Applications must be received by close of business on Friday 18 September 2015.

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To request an application pack please email recruitment@staywellservices.org.uk

Please direct any queries to Pascale Fabre, Help@Home - 020 8942 8256

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Closing date: 9am Monday 21 September 2015

Interviews will be held week commencing 28 September 2015

Application forms and further details of how to apply can be found at www.nonsuchschool.org
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T: 020 8394 3400 | F: 020 8394 3403
E: vacancies@nonsuch.sutton.sch.uk

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The set closing date will be Monday 21st September 2015.

An application pack is available from the School's website www.lehs.org.uk. Applications must be made on the School's own form, together with a covering letter or supporting statement and sent to personnel@lehs.org.uk CVs will not be considered.

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Public Notices

AUDREY DOREEN HENDERSON (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 26 Stokesby Road Chessington Surrey KT9 2DU, who died on 09/05/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 20/11/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
LEWIS & DICK
443 Kingston Road Ewell
Surrey KT19 0DG *T450748*

DONALD GEORGE ROLSTON (Deceased)
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THE CO-OPERATIVE LEGAL SERVICES LIMITED
Aztec 650 Aztec West
Almondsbury Bristol BS32 4SD
(Ref: VTR/3602062P/Rolston)
T451066

AUDREY DOREEN HENDERSON (Deceased)
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LEWIS & DICK
443 Kingston Road Ewell
Surrey KT19 0DG *T450748*

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Full details of the application can be inspected on the licensing register, online at www.kingston.gov.uk or in person at the address given below.

Deadline for representations 30th September 2015
Representations must be made in writing to the Licensing Authority at the following address:

Licensing Manager, Environmental Health, Guildhall 2, High Street, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1EU
or by email to licensing@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5,000.

Best place for your public notice
CALL US ON 020 8722 6400

JAMES NOEL FRANCIS (Deceased)
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12 High Street
Kingston upon Thames
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● The Jaguar XJ12C driven by John Steed in The New Avengers is being sold at auction and expected to fetch £10,000.

Played by Patrick Macnee, John Steed was regularly seen on screen driving the modified Jaguar, which has a full Broadspeed body kit and extra wide wheels for the television show.

Broadspeed ran racing versions of the XJ12C, powered by a 5.3-litre V12 engine, and the roadgoing version was adopted by the programme's makers as the ideal car for Steed's suave character. This car was only the eighth example built.

Finished in Racing Green, the Jaguar is complete but in need of a full restoration after being stored in a barn for many years. It's being sold at auction on October 14 by H&H.

Damian Jones, Sales Director of H&H, said: "Who remembers The New Avengers and did not at one time or another fancy ourselves at the wheel of this car?

"Now there is a chance to make that fantasy a reality for a very nominal amount. And who knows, maybe the chance to find a modern-day Purdey in the passenger seat?!"

● Bad singing, nose picking and swearing are some of the habits mums and dads get up to in the car that drive their kids mad.

A new survey by Ford shows these three habits are not only the most annoying for kids, but parents were also named the most disruptive in the car on long journeys.

More than a third of kids (39 per cent) cited their parents' singing as the worst thing they do in the car, while 61 per cent said their parents became angry at other drivers and used naughty words. Parents in France are the worst for swearing and getting angry, while Italy is the only country in Europe where less than half (39 per cent) of parents are guilty of this. British parents are most likely to offer a snack (29 per cent) to get the kids to behave. The best behaved kids are in Germany, where 38 per cent claim their parents don't need to make them behave in the car.

Dads are reckoned to be the better drivers by their children, especially by boys, while parents say the most irritating habit of children is asking Are we nearly there yet? In the UK, 63 per cent of parents note this as their children's worst habit on a long journey.

PA Photos/ Handout

GREEN WITH ENVY

● MINI has launched its own surfboard with help from surf experts Channel Islands Surfboards. The design aims to offer surfers all of the same attributes of a MINI car, but on the waves.

Called The Mini, the new surfboard has been developed with Kalani Robb, a professional surfer and US Open Surfing Champion.

Just like MINI's car range, anyone buying The Mini surfboard can personalise it, thanks to a wide variety of colour choices and combinations.

MINI is working in partnership with the Croyde Bay Surf School to teach beginners about the sport and introduce them to its new surfboard, with prices starting from £580.

Robb said: "To create the feeling of agility and speed, we've developed the board with a little extra tail volume. The board's wider outline and low rocker really make it fly."

Croyde Surf Academy Head Coach, Carlo Fusie-Ferrero said: "I love it, best board I've surfed in a long time."

Representative Example*

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Contents

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Maiden endurance title in Tom's sights

New Malden's Tom Onslow-Cole is eyeing a maiden endurance racing drivers' championship title.

The 28-year-old, *right*, brought his RAM Racing Mercedes SLS AMG GT3 home third during the weekend's penultimate 24 Hour Series race in Barcelona.

The result handed RAM the A6 class team title and has them as joint leaders in the overall championship.

Onslow-Cole heads the A6 drivers' title race by three points and could still lift the overall crown.

More sport: kingstonguardian.co.uk

Back: Stephanie Addison was part of Surbiton's 2011 England Hockey U18 Cup winning squad

Surbiton return for Addison

Surbiton Ladies have received a boost ahead of Women's Hockey League Premier Division opening day with the confirmed return of one of their homegrown stars, *writes Stuart Amos*.

Stephanie Addison, who lifted the England Hockey U18 Cup with Surbiton in 2011, has registered for the forthcoming campaign at Sugden Road three years after quitting the club for west country outfit Clifton.

Addison and fellow new signing Emma Fairhead, who agreed to join the defending league and cup champions last week, will be available to play in this Saturday's first league clash at home to East Grinstead.

The club's men beat Indian Gymkhana 6-0 and lost 3-2 to the host club in a triangular tournament at Reading Hockey Club on Saturday.

Head coach Todd Williams' men, runners-up in the MHL Premier Division last term, start their campaign with the visit of defending champions East Grinstead on Sunday.

Hat-trick

Surbiton's Moe Sbihi and fellow Molesey Boat Club star George Nash helped the Team GB men's eight crew to an historic third successive World Championship title on Sunday.

In a lung-bursting final 500m they pipped season-long Germany to gold by just 0.2 seconds to take the title in five minutes 36.18 seconds on Lake Aiguebelette in France.

Gold: George Nash, left, and Moe Sbihi

COMPETITION: Williams delighted with strength in depth for now

Jolly leaves hole to plug

SPORTS EDITOR
STUART AMOS
samos@
london.newsquest.co.uk

Kingstonian striker Richard Jolly may have hung up his boots for good, but boss Tommy Williams will not rush out to find a replacement.

The former Sutton United and Wealdstone hitman, who originally quit the game in 2013 only to return to action last season, confirmed his immediate retirement via social media last week.

The 32-year-old, who failed to score a competitive goal during his brief stay at Kingsmeadow, had pledged to fire Ks to a Ryman Premier League play-off berth this season.

His departure leaves room for another goalscorer in Williams' squad, but the manager is in no hurry to plug the gap.

"You've got to balance the books. I'm always looking at players and looking to improve. Any manager would say the same," said Williams.

"If something comes along that is right for us and is at the right price then we might look to do something.

"But things are tight and you've got to work to the budget we have and that is what we are doing at the moment."

Goals from Ty Smith, Pelayo Pico Gomez and Jake Kempton secured a 3-1 win at Harrow Borough on Saturday to keep Ks in touch with the division's top five.

Defender George Wells, available again after suspension, did not travel with the matchday squad at the weekend and Williams reckoned that is a reflection of the resources currently at his disposal.

"We have got people knocking on the door, not just in the back four, but all over the pitch," he added.

"It is good to have competition for places.

"It is healthy. We did not have it last season and that halted us in terms of getting into the play-offs.

"We have made sure we have personnel on board and at the moment it is great to have such a strong bench."

On the spot: Ks striker Pelayo Pico Gomez scored his sixth Ryman Premier League goal of the season in Saturday's 3-1 win at Harrow Borough

Kingstonian kick off their FA Cup campaign with a first qualifying round visit from Farnborough this weekend.

Minima trio set sail for titles on Thames

Ali Banks, Robin Broomfield and John Kemp triumphed on home water to prove there is more to just messing about on the river when it comes to sailing on the Thames.

The Minima Yacht Club trio claimed the spoils in their respective categories at the club's annual regatta in Kingston on Saturday and Sunday.

Banks claimed the handicap class win ahead of clubmate Ed Mayley, with Broomfield pipping Minima's Alex Crane in the enterprise class and John Kemp finishing in front of Rob Brooks and John Metzner to win the solo class crown.

Thames Yacht Club's Patrick Rayner won the Merlin Rockets contest at the TWM Solicitors sponsored competition.

Casuals' brotherly love

Corinthian Casuals boss James Bracken showed some brotherly love after watching his side slip to a 1-0 defeat to league leaders Folkestone Invicta on Saturday, *writes Stuart Amos*.

Ian Draycott's overhead kick sneaked past Casuals keeper Danny Bracken – the manager's brother – to settle the match as Casuals slipped to fourth in the Ryman Division One South table.

But the King George's Field chief refused to be downbeat and heaped praise on his shot stopper, who pulled off two smart saves to prevent the scoreline from flattering the visitors.

"I know more than anyone how good Danny is," said the manager.

"It's been a different start to the season for him because last year, when I watched him, some games he'd be called to save eight or nine one-on-ones.

"This season, I think I can count on one hand the good saves he's made in the first six games.

"He's had less exposure this year as we've been defending slightly better.

"But when he's needed to pull out the saves, he has and that's what he's there to do."

He added: "It was a tight game which could've gone either way. Another tight game might go our way next week."

Casuals host Peacehaven & Telscombe on Saturday.

Spectacular winner: Folkestone's Ian Draycott leaps to volley past Corinthian Casuals keeper Danny Bracken at King George's Field on Saturday Picture: Stuart Tree

SPORTS*brief*

BOXING: Kingston's Danny Parsons, *above*, will waste little time to back up his professional debut triumph when he returns to the ring on September 19. Parsons stopped Portsmouth's Mwenya Chisanga in the third round of their fight at York Hall on Saturday. The 23-year-old faces a stiff test when he takes on Ryan Davies – unbeaten in six fights – at York Hall next weekend.

FOOTBALL: Chessington & Hook United will hope Saturday's 4-1 FA Vase first qualifying round defeat at Corinthian is just a blip in their cup form. United, 13th in the Combined Counties League Premier Division, host North Leigh in the FA Cup first qualifying round at Chalky Lane this week after suffering their first defeat of the season in knock-out football.

CRICKET: Chessington's final day three-wicket win at Surrey Championship Division Two champions Walton was in vain as they missed out on promotion by four points. The visitors dismissed their hosts for 146 before skipper Daniel Yarnley's patient 23 from 67 balls eventually got his side home to maximum points. But Old Rutlishians secured the second promotion spot with a nine-wicket win at Worcester Park.

FOOTBALL: Kingstonian Ladies make their competitive debut in the Surrey County Women's and Girls' Premier Division on Sunday. Ks, managed by Mark Robson and coached by Stef Loucaides, go into the match at Abbey Rangers having won their first game since being formed over the summer – a 7-1 friendly triumph over Carshalton Athletic Ladies reserves – on Saturday.

PARKRUN: Kingston & Polytechnic Harrier George Michael Corcoran set a new personal best of 16 minutes eight seconds to win the Bushy Park parkrun on Saturday ahead of a 1,155-strong field. Schoolgirl Amelia McDonnell finished 32nd to be the first girl home (19:12) on her race debut.

RUGBY UNION: Kingston completed their pre-season programme with a 26-0 win at Horsham on Saturday. They kick-off their Surrey Division One campaign with a trip to Old Whitgiftians on September 19.

CRICKET: A 35-run defeat at Farncombe brought the curtain down on Old Emanuel's stay in Surrey Championship Division Four on Saturday.

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Mini Gruyere and Smoked Ham Rarebits
Smoked Salmon and Lemon Crème Fraiche Blinis

Starter
Warm, Wood Roasted Mediterranean Vegetable Tart, Vine Tomato and Mozzarella Salad, Wild Rocket and Aged Balsamic

Main Courses
Lemon and Thyme Grilled Breast of Chicken, Roasted Root Vegetables, Fine Green Beans, Dauphinoise Potatoes and a Light Rioja Jus

Ricotta, Woodland and Wild Mushroom Ravioli with Green Beans, Shavings of Fresh Parmesan and a Chablis, Chive and Pumpkin Cream (v)

Dessert
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